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APPROVAL PACKAGE FOR:

**APPLICATION NUMBER
21-204**

Approval Letter



Food and Drug
Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 21-204

DEC 22 2000

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Attention: Carl Schlotfeldt
Associate Director, Drug Regulatory Affairs
59 Route 10
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Dear Mr. Schlotfeldt:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated December 17, 1999, received December 17, 1999, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Starlix® (nateglinide) Tablets, 60 mg and 120 mg.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated January 31, March 17, 24, and 31, April 10, 18, and 20, May 4 and 12, June 1, 5, 9, 21, and 30, July 6, 14, and 17, August 2 and 3, September 6, 13, and 21, October 4, 10, 13, 20, and 23, November 1 and 6, and December 1, 13 (2), 14, 15, 18 (2), 19, 20, and 22, 2000.

This new drug application provides for the use of Starlix (nateglinide) Tablets as monotherapy, as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in patients with type 2 diabetes. In addition, it provides for the use of Starlix concomitantly with metformin to improve glycemic control.

We have completed the review of this application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the agreed-upon labeling text. Accordingly, the application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted draft labeling (package insert submitted December 22, 2000, immediate container and carton labels submitted September 6, 2000). Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

Please submit 20 paper copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. Alternatively, you may submit the FPL electronically according to the guidance for industry titled *Providing Regulatory Submissions in Electronic Format - NDAs* (January 1999). For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved NDA 21-204." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Be advised that, as of April 1, 1999, all applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived or deferred (63 *FR* 66632). We note that you have not fulfilled the requirements of 21 CFR 314.55 (or 601.27). We are deferring submission of your pediatric studies until June 30, 2003. However, in the interim, please submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of this letter unless you believe a waiver is appropriate. Within approximately 120 days of receipt of your pediatric drug development plan, we will review your plan and notify you of its adequacy.

If you believe that this drug qualifies for a waiver of the pediatric study requirement, you should submit a request for a waiver with supporting information and documentation in accordance with the provisions of 21 CFR 314.55 within 60 days from the date of this letter.

We will notify you within 120 days of receipt of your response whether a waiver is granted. If a waiver is not granted, we will ask you to submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of denial of the waiver.

Pediatric studies conducted under the terms of section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may result in additional marketing exclusivity for certain products (pediatric exclusivity). You should refer to the *Guidance for Industry on Qualifying for Pediatric Exclusivity* (available on our web site at www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric) for details. If you wish to qualify for pediatric exclusivity you should submit a "Proposed Pediatric Study Request" (PPSR) in addition to your plans for pediatric drug development described above. We recommend that you submit a Proposed Pediatric Study Request within 120 days from the date of this letter. If you are unable to meet this time frame but are interested in pediatric exclusivity, please notify the division in writing. FDA generally will not accept studies submitted to an NDA before issuance of a Written Request as responsive to a Written Request. Sponsors should obtain a Written Request before submitting pediatric studies to an NDA. If you do not submit a PPSR or indicate that you are interested in pediatric exclusivity, we will review your pediatric drug development plan and notify you of its adequacy. Please note that satisfaction of the requirements in 21 CFR 314.55 alone may not qualify you for pediatric exclusivity. FDA does not necessarily ask a sponsor to complete the same scope of studies to qualify for pediatric exclusivity as it does to fulfill the requirements of the pediatric rule.

In addition, please submit three copies of the introductory promotional materials that you propose to use for this product. All proposed materials should be submitted in draft or mock-up form, not final print. Please send one copy to the Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products and two copies of both the promotional materials and the package insert directly to:

Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications, HFD-42
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Please submit one market package of the drug product when it is available.

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Jena Weber, Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 827-6422.

Sincerely,

/S/

John K. Jenkins, M.D.
Director
Office of Drug Evaluation II
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research